

## Message Text

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21

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /056 W

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R 252142Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9573

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

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EO 11652 NA

TAGS: PBOR PFOR PLOS VE CO

SUBJ: PRESIDENT PEREZ COMMENTS ON COLOMBIAN PROPOSAL  
FOR THE GULF OF VENEZUELA

REF: CARACAS 7551 AND 7528, BOGOTA 6888 AND 6851

1. PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ TOLD REPORTERS JULY 25 THAT THE TERRITORIAL DISPUTE WITH COLOMBIA TRANSCENDS PARTY POLITICS, AND THAT "THERE HAS NOT BEEN NOR WILL THERE BE ANY CHANGE IN THE POSITION WHICH VENEZUELA HAS MAINTAINED CONCERNING THIS MATTER, AND WE CONTINUE HOPING AND ASPIRING TO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THIRD PARTIES. WE LISTEN TO AND RESPECT ANY POSITION, ANY INITIATIVE, WHICH COMES FROM COLOMBIA AND ITS ILLUSTRIOUS PRESIDENT BECAUSE IT IS OUR OBLIGATION. BUT VENEZUELA KNOWS WHICH IS ITS PATH AND WHAT ITS RIGHTS ARE AND IS AWARE THAT WITHIN OUR CONCEPT OF PEACE, COEXISTENCE, AND UNDERSTANDING WE WILL ALWAYS DEFEND THEM."

2. COMMENT. PRESIDENT LOPEZ'S PROPOSAL FOR A COLOMBIAN-VENEZUELAN CONDOMINIUM OVER THAT PORTION OF THE GULF OF VENEZUELA CLAIMED BY BOTH COUNTRIES HAS PROVOKED MUCH LOCAL COMMENT, MOSTLY UNFAVORABLE. THE PRESIDENT OF THE VENEZUELAN COLLEGE OF INTERNATIONALISTS HAS DECLARED THAT IN SEP 1939 PRESIDENT LOPEZ CONTRERAS DECREED THE CLOSING OF THE GULF, AND HAS RECALLED

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THAT VENEZUELA SINCE ON OCCASION HAS DETAINED FOREIGN SHIPS(MOSTLY

COLOMBIAN) IN THE GULF. MOST VENEZUELANS SEEM TO SUSPECT THAT  
LOPEZ'S PROPOSAL IS AN EFFORT TO REINFORCE COLOMBIA'S BARGAINING  
POSITION AND PRESIDENT PEREZ'S COMMENTS APPERAR INTENDED TO  
REASSURE VENEZUELANS THAT THE GOV IS NOT PREPARED TO RELAX  
ITS HARDLINE ATTITUDE.  
SHLAUDEMAM

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, PROPOSALS (BID), WATER BOUNDARIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975CARACA07649  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750258-0927  
**From:** CARACAS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 CARACAS 7551, 75 CARACAS 7528, 75 BOGOTA 6888, 75 BOGOTA 6851  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT PEREZ COMMENTS ON COLOMBIAN PROPOSAL FOR THE GULF OF VENEZUELA  
**TAGS:** PBOR, PFOR, PLOS, VE, CO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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